

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method for transmitting a message over the Internet comprising:
 - receiving on a server a communication transmitted from a first connection device in a communication medium of said first connection device;
 - converting said communication from said medium of said first connection device into a communication medium of a second connection device;
 - transmitting said converted communication to said second connection device; and
 - wherein said communication medium of said first connection device and said communication medium of said second connection device are different.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the medium of said first connection device is text and the medium of said second connection device is voice.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the medium of said first connection device is voice and the medium of said second connection device is text.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a computer and said second connection device is a telephone.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a telephone and said second connection device is a computer.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a computer connected to the Internet and the communication medium of said computer is text and wherein said second connection device is a telephone connected to the public switched telephone network and the communication medium of said telephone is voice.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a telephone
 2 connected to the public switched telephone network and the communication medium of
 3 said telephone is voice and wherein said second connection device is a computer
 4 connected to the Internet and the communication medium of said computer is text.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a computer and said
 2 second connection device is a pager.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a computer and said
 2 second connection device is personal digital assistant.

1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is computer and said
 2 second connection device is cellular telephone operating the small messaging system.

1 11. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is telephone and said
 2 second connection device is a pager.

1 12. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a telephone and said
 2 second connection device is a personal digital assistant.

1 13. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a telephone and said
 2 second connection device is a cellular telephone operating a small messaging system

1 14. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a personal digital
 2 assistant and second connection device is a computer.

1 15. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a personal digital
2 assistant and said second connection device is a telephone.

1 16. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a cellular telephone
2 and second connection device is a computer.

1 17. The method of claim 1 wherein said first connection device is a cellular telephone
2 and said second connection device is a telephone.

1 18. A method for transmitting a message from a telephone to a computer over the
2 Internet, comprising:
3 establishing communication over the public switched telephone network from said
4 telephone to a server on which voice recognition software resides for converting a voice
5 message to text;
6 utilizing said voice recognition software to convert a voice message spoken into
7 said telephone into a text message; and
8 connecting said text message to the Internet through a gateway which adds TCP/IP
9 protocol for transmitting said text message across the Internet to said computer as a text
10 message.

1 19. A method of transmitting a message from a computer to a telephone over the
2 Internet, comprising:
3 establishing communication over the Internet between a computer and a server on
4 which software resides for synthesizing a voice message from said text message:
5 utilizing said software to convert said text message to a voice message; and
6 connecting said voice message to the public switched telephone network for
7 transmitting said voice message over the public switched telephone network to said
8 telephone.

1 20. A process for transmitting a message from a first connection device to a second
 2 connection device over the Internet, comprising:
 3 establishing communication from said first connection device to a server on which
 4 software resides for converting said message from a communication medium of said first
 5 connection device to a communication medium of said second connection device;
 6 utilizing said software to convert said message from said first communication
 7 medium to said second communication medium; and
 8 connecting said converted message through a gateway to a network on which said
 9 second connection device is connected to transmit said converted message to said second
 10 connection device.

1 21. The process of claim 20 wherein software for controlling said process resides on
 2 said server, said method further comprising:
 3 checking validation information included in said message from said first
 4 connection device against a data base to verify that said message was generated by a user
 5 authorized to use said process.

1 22. The process of claim 21 wherein said data base comprises a storage structure in
 2 which a plurality of rows of data may be utilized to store information about a user, and a
 3 first row is identified by an index identifier and subsequent rows of information regarding
 4 said user are identified by a key referring to said first row of data.

1 23. Apparatus for transmitting a message over the Internet comprising:
 2 a server for receiving a communication transmitted from a first connection device
 3 in a communication medium of said first connection device;

means residing on said server for converting said communication from said medium of said first connection device into a communication medium of a second connection device;

means for transmitting said converted communication to said second connection device; and

wherein said communication medium of said first connection device and said communication medium of said second connection device are different.

24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the medium of said first connection device is text and the medium of said second connection device is voice.

25. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the medium of said first connection device is voice and the medium of said second connection device is text.

26. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a computer and said second connection device is a telephone.

27. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a telephone and said second connection device is a computer.

28. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a personal digital assistant and said second connection device is a telephone.

29. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a cellular telephone and second connection device is a computer.

30. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a cellular telephone and said second connection device is a telephone.

1 31. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a computer
 2 connected to the Internet and the communication medium of said computer is text and
 3 wherein said second connection device is a telephone connected to the public switched
 4 telephone network and the communication medium of said telephone is voice.

1 32. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a telephone
 2 connected to the public switched telephone network and the communication medium of
 3 said telephone is voice and wherein said second connection device is a computer
 4 connected to the Internet and the communication medium of said computer is text.

1 33. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a computer and
 2 said second connection device is a pager.

1 34. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a computer and
 2 said second connection device is personal digital assistant.

1 35. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is computer and said
 2 second connection device is cellular telephone operating the small messaging system.

1 36. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is telephone and
 2 said second connection device is a pager.

1 37. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a telephone and
 2 said second connection device is a personal digital assistant.

1 38. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a telephone and
 2 said second connection device is a cellular telephone operating a small messaging system

1 39. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said first connection device is a personal digital
2 assistant and second connection device is a computer.

1 40. Apparatus for transmitting a message from a first connection device to a second
2 connection device over the Internet, comprising:

3 a server on which software resides for converting said message from a
4 communication medium of said first connection device to a communication medium of
5 said second connection device;

6 means for establishing communication to said server from said first connection
7 device; and

8 a gateway for connecting a message converted by said software to a network on
9 which said second connection device is connected to transmit said converted message to
10 said second connection device.

1 41. The apparatus of claim 40 further comprising:

2 a data base having a storage structure in which a plurality of rows of data are
3 utilized to store information about a user, and a first row is identified by an index identifier
4 and subsequent rows of information regarding said user are identified by a key referring to
5 said first row of data; and

6 means for checking validation information included in said message from said
7 first connection device against said data base to verify that said message was generated by
8 a user authorized to use said apparatus.